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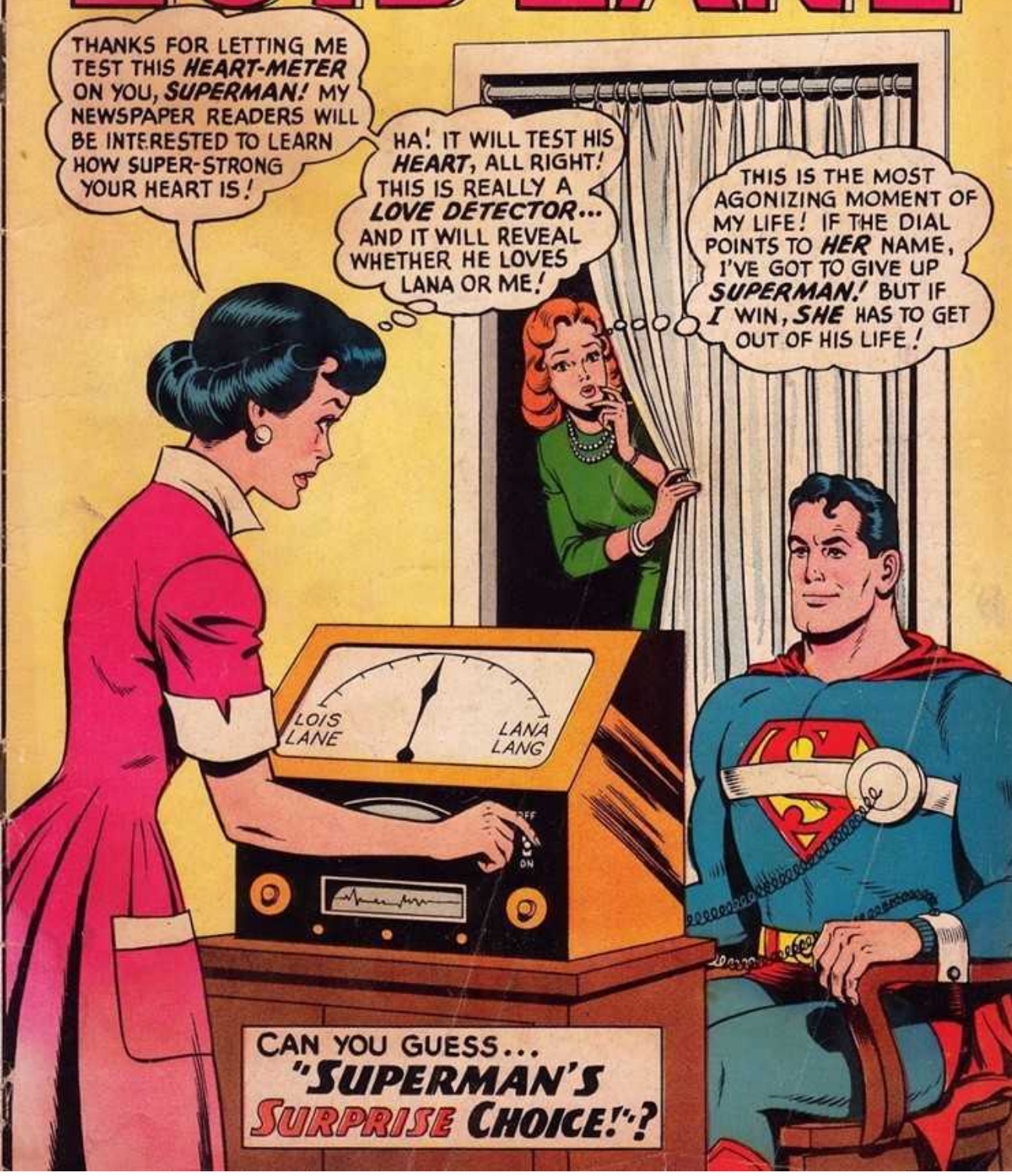
SUPERMAN'S GIRL FRIEND
LOIS LANE


THANKS FOR LETTING ME TEST THIS HEART-METER ON YOU, SUPERMAN! MY NEWSPAPER READERS WILL BE INTERESTED TO LEARN HOW SUPER-STRONG YOUR HEART IS!
HA! IT WILL TEST HIS HEART, ALL RIGHT! THIS IS REALLY A LOVE DETECTOR... AND IT WILL REVEAL WHETHER HE LOVES LANA OR ME!
THIS IS THE MOST AGONIZING MOMENT OF MY LIFE! IF THE DIAL POINTS TO HER NAME, I'VE GOT TO GIVE UP SUPERMAN! BUT IF I WIN, SHE HAS TO GET OUT OF HIS LIFE!
LOIS LANE
LANA LANG
OFF
ON
CAN YOU GUESS... "SUPERMAN'S SURPRISE CHOICE!"?

PLAY IT SAFE!

(A TRUE STORY FROM THE RECORDS OF THE MINNESOTA WARDEN SERVICE)

YOU SURE COVER A LOT OF TERRITORY, WARDEN HODGE!
SO DO FOREST FIRES AND CAMPING ACCIDENTS, JACK! IT'S MY JOB TO SPOT TROUBLE BEFORE IT GETS OUT OF HAND -- ESPECIALLY IN SUMMER WHEN PEOPLE VACATION IN THE WOODS...
"ONCE I SPOTTED A CANOE OVERTURNED ON A LAKE, WITH TWO BOYS CLINGING TO IT--AND NEITHER OF THEM ABLE TO SWIM!"
IF YOU CAN'T SWIM, BOYS, YOU SHOULD EITHER WEAR A LIFE JACKET OR STAY OUT OF A CANOE!

"ANOTHER TIME, I WENT LOOKING FOR A MISSING FISHERMAN WHO HAD LEFT HIS COMPANIONS IN UNFAMILIAR TERRITORY, WITHOUT EVEN HAVING A COMPASS!"
"OF COURSE, NOT EVERYONE IS CARELESS. I RECENTLY SPOTTED SOME YOUNGSTERS CHECKING THE BOTTOM OF A SMALL LAKE BEFORE DIVING IN..."
THAT'S USING YOUR HEAD!

SAY, WARDEN, ISN'T THAT SMOKE IN THOSE WOODS DOWN THERE?
GOOD FOR YOU, JACK! I JUST SPOTTED IT MYSELF -- WE'RE GOING DOWN TO INVESTIGATE!
SHORTLY...
SOME CARELESS CAMPERS DIDN'T EXTINGUISH THIS FIRE PROPERLY WHEN THEY LEFT!
I SURE AM LEARNING A LOT ON THIS TRIP, WARDEN! NOW I CAN WRITE A STORY FOR MY CLUB NEWSPAPER ON "PLAYING IT SAFE!"

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SUPERMAN'S GIRL FRIEND
LOIS LANE
IT'S THE TRIAL OF THE CENTURY... AND YOU ARE THERE! YOU'LL SHUDDER IN YOUR SEAT AS LOIS LANE IS ACCUSED OF THE MOST SHOCKING CRIME IN THE BOOKS! INCREDIBLE AS IT SEEMS, THE EVIDENCE MOUNTS UP AGAINST HER, AND NOT EVEN SUPERMAN CAN HELP AS THE PROSECUTOR GRIMLY DEMANDS THAT LOIS PAY THE DEATH PENALTY FOR—
The MURDER of LANA LANG!
LOIS! I'VE JUST HEARD THE TERRIBLE NEWS! THEY SAY YOU KILLED LANA LANG IN A FIT OF JEALOUSY! TELL ME IT ISN'T TRUE!
I'M INNOCENT, SUPERMAN! DON'T LET ME DIE FOR A CRIME I DIDN'T COMMIT!
LOIS LANE MAY BE YOUR GIRL-FRIEND, SUPERMAN, BUT SHE'S BEEN TRIED AND CONVICTED OF MURDER! SHE'S ON HER WAY TO THE GAS CHAMBER NOW!
ONE DAY, AS LOIS LANE AND HER FELLOW REPORTER, JIMMY OLSEN, FLY TO COVER THE OPENING OF A NEW TV STATION AT STAR CITY...
THERE'S THE TV TOWER NOW, LOIS! WE OUGHT TO GET A GOOD STORY OUT OF THIS! SUPERMAN PROMISED TO BE PRESENT FOR THE OPENING OF THE STATION!
DAILY PLANET
SUPERMAN! I'D FLY TO TIMBUCTOO TO SEE THAT HANDSOME DREAM-BOAT!
AFTER LANDING AT THE AIRFIELD, LOIS HURRIES TO THE OPENING CEREMONIES, WHERE...
IT'S LANA LANG! THEY'RE TAKING SOME NEWSREEL SHOTS OF HER AS "THE GIRL WHO KNEW SUPERMAN BEST"!
WHAT? SHE'S GOT HER NERVE-CLAIMING THAT! WE'LL SEE ABOUT THIS!

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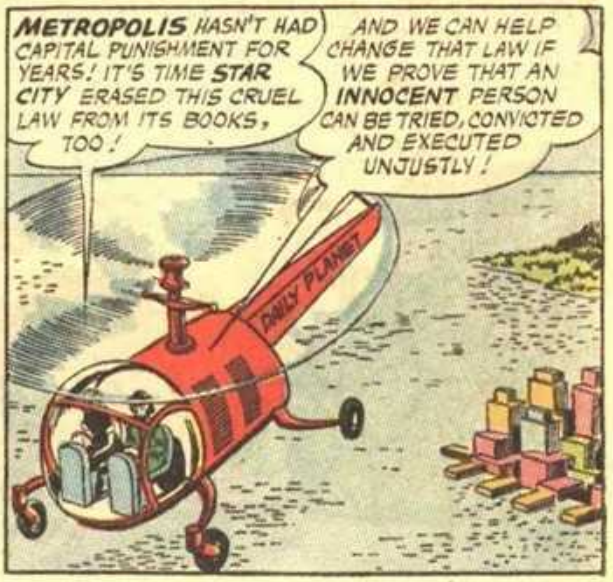
WHY, YOU BRAZEN HUSSY! I KNOW SUPERMAN MUCH BETTER THAN YOU! HE'S SAVED MY LIFE AT LEAST A HUNDRED TIMES!
THAT FOR YOU! EVERYONE KNOWS I PRACTICALLY GREW UP WITH SUPERMAN WHEN I WAS A GIRL BACK IN SMALLVILLE!
SNAP!
MOMENTS LATER, AS SUPERMAN ARRIVES...
SUPERMAN! THANK GOODNESS YOU'RE HERE! LOIS AND LANA ARE HAVING A CAT FIGHT OVER YOU!
GOOD GRIEF! WON'T THOSE TWO EVER STOP BEING JEALOUS OF EACH OTHER?
NOW GIRLS, CALM DOWN! STOP THIS NONSENSE! YOU'RE BOTH MY DEAR FRIENDS!
LET ME GO, SUPERMAN! I'LL TEAR HER LIMB FROM LIMB! I'LL KILL HER!
BUT AS TEMPERS SEEM TO COOL OFF...
NOW THAT YOU'VE SIMMERED DOWN, LOIS, I WANT YOU TO HELP ME ENTERTAIN THE CROWD! HERE, TAKE THIS SPECIAL PISTOL AND SHOOT IT AT ME TO DEMONSTRATE MY INVULNERABILITY!
ANYTHING YOU SAY, SUPERMAN DEAR! BUT BELIEVE ME, I'VE GOT A MUCH BETTER USE FOR THIS GUN!
AS THE CROWD WATCHES IN AWE...
LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, THOUGH THE BULLETS OF THE GUN ARE MADE OF PERMIUM, THE HARDEST METAL KNOWN, THEY BOUNCE OFF SUPERMAN'S CHEST LIKE SO MANY GUM DROPS!
BANG
BANG
BANG
BUT AS THE CROWD APPLAUDS, NO ONE NOTICES LOIS POCKETING THE GUN...
HURRAH FOR SUPERMAN!
SUPERMAN DOESN'T KNOW IT, BUT THIS GUN IS GOING TO COME IN HANDY FOR THE LITTLE SCHEME I HAVE IN MIND!
2

LATER, AT THE STAR CITY AIRPORT, AFTER THE CEREMONIES END...
LOIS, I'M TAKING JIMMY INTO THE PAST FOR A FEW DAYS BY MEANS OF THAT TIME BUBBLE! PROMISE ME YOU WON'T FEUD WITH LANA WHILE I'M AWAY!
YOU'VE GOT MY WORD, SUPERMAN!

LANA, TO SHOW YOU I DON'T HOLD A GRUDGE, I'M INVITING YOU TO COME ALONG WITH ME IN THE PLANE-HELICOPTER! I'VE GOT AN EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW WITH THE RAJAH OF GINPORE WHO'S ARRIVING ON A TRANSATLANTIC LINER!
AND YOU'LL SHARE THE SCOOP WITH ME? WHY, THANK YOU, LOIS.
I'M SURE GLAD THOSE TWO MADE UP!

BUT SUPERMAN WOULD BE STARTLED TO HEAR THE CONVERSATION TAKING PLACE IN THE HELICOPTER...
AS AN ACTRESS, YOU'RE TERRIFIC, LOIS! OUR FAKE FIGHT EVEN FOOLED SUPERMAN!
OUR SCHEME'S WORKING LIKE A CHARM! IF EVERYTHING GOES RIGHT, WE'LL BECOME FAMOUS AS THE TWO GIRLS WHO ELIMINATED THE DEATH PENALTY FOR CRIMINALS IN STAR CITY! CAPITAL PUNISHMENT, WHICH MOST PEOPLE CONSIDER A BARBARIC CUSTOM, WILL BECOME OBSOLETE HERE!


METROPOLIS HASN'T HAD CAPITAL PUNISHMENT FOR YEARS! IT'S TIME STAR CITY ERASED THIS CRUEL LAW FROM ITS BOOKS, TOO!
AND WE CAN HELP CHANGE THAT LAW IF WE PROVE THAT AN INNOCENT PERSON CAN BE TRIED, CONVICTED AND EXECUTED UNJUSTLY!
DAILY PLANET

NOW FOR THE REST OF OUR PLAN! I'M GOING TO LEAVE YOU OUT HERE ON VULTURE ISLAND FOR A FEW WEEKS, LANA!
DAILY PLANET
AS FAR AS THE WORLD WILL KNOW, I VANISHED FROM SIGHT WITHOUT A TRACE! SINCE I WAS LAST SEEN WITH YOU, YOU'LL BE HELD RESPONSIBLE FOR MY DISAPPEARANCE! EVERY-ONE WILL THINK YOU MURDERED ME!

AS THE WHIRLYBIRD LANDS...
EEEEK! A SNAKE!
IT'S A HARMLESS VARIETY! I'LL SCARE IT OFF WITH THE REVOLVER SUPERMAN GAVE ME AND FORGOT TO TAKE BACK! THE EMPTY SHELLS WILL LOOK LIKE INCRIMINATING EVIDENCE PROVING THAT I KILLED YOU!
BANG BANG BANG

PRESENTLY, AS THE SCHEMERS UNLOAD SUPPLIES...
OH! THAT CASE FELL ON ME AND CUT MY FINGER! IT'S BLEEDING!
IT ALSO TORE A BUTTON FROM YOUR DRESS, LANA! THAT TORN BUTTON AND THOSE DROPS OF BLOOD WILL LOOK LIKE MORE CIRCUMSTANTIAL EVIDENCE THAT I MURDERED YOU!
THUMP

SOON... K-RATIONS, BOOKS, RADIO, INFLATABLE RUBBER BOAT AND OUTBOARD MOTOR! IT'S ALL HERE, LOIS!
DAILY PLANET
SO LONG, LANA! KEEP YOUR EARS GLUED TO THE RADIO! WHEN I'M ABOUT TO WALK THE "LAST MILE", USE THE BOAT TO GET BACK TO THE MAINLAND!

TWO DAYS LATER, IN THE PLANET OFFICE, LOIS' PLOT BEARS FRUIT...
LOIS! WHAT'S GOING ON HERE? THESE POLICEMEN SAY THEY'RE HERE TO ARREST YOU!
ARREST ME, PERRY? WHAT FOR? DID I DOUBLE PARK OR SOMETHING?
THIS IS WHERE I GO INTO MY ACT!

MISS LANE, YOU'RE WANTED IN STAR CITY! WE'RE ARRESTING YOU FOR THE MURDER OF LANA LANG! WE WARN YOU THAT ANYTHING YOU SAY MAY BE USED AGAINST YOU!
I-I'M INNOCENT! I NEVER KILLED LANA!
HAVE YOU FLIPPED, OFFICER? LOIS LANE WOULDN'T HARM A FLY!

WOULDN'T HARM A FLY, EH? THEN HOW DO YOU EXPLAIN THIS GUN IN HER PURSE?
I--I DON'T KNOW!
DON'T WORRY, PERRY, I'M INNOCENT UNTIL THEY PROVE ME GUILTY!
THAT SHOULD BE EASY WITH ALL THE CLUES I'VE LEFT BEHIND!

BUT LATER, IN THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE IN STAR CITY...
BETTER CONFESS, MISS LANE! WE'VE GOT THE GOODS ON YOU! FOR INSTANCE, HERE'S EXHIBIT A... NEWSREEL SHOTS OF YOUR FIGHT WITH LANA LANG!
I'LL KILL HER!
4.

AS THE INVESTIGATION PROCEEDS...
ADMIT IT! YOU ONLY PRETENDED TO MAKE UP WITH LANA SO YOU COULD LURE HER AWAY IN YOUR HELICOPTER! THAT WAS THE LAST TIME LANA LANG WAS SEEN ALIVE!
YES, BUT THAT DOESN'T PROVE I KILLED HER!

WE FOUND EVIDENCE OF A STRUGGLE IN THE HELICOPTER! THIS TORN BUTTON FROM LANA'S DRESS! AND DROPS OF BLOOD WHICH MATCH THE VICTIM'S BLOOD TYPE AS RECORDED IN THE BLOOD DONORS' CENTER! EXPLAIN THAT, IF YOU CAN!
STRICTLY CIRCUMSTANTIAL EVIDENCE!
GOOD! HE'S USING ALL THE CLUES WE PLANTED!
BLOOD DONOR RECORD LANA LANG BLOOD TYPE 'O' R.H. FACTOR POS.

LATER, AS LOIS IS HELD FOR TRIAL...
LOIS, YOU'RE HIDING SOMETHING ABOUT LANA! WHAT HAPPENED TO HER? REMEMBER, THIS ISN'T METROPOLIS! IN STAR CITY THEY SEND YOU TO THE GAS CHAMBER FOR MURDER!
PERRY, ALL I CAN SAY IS THAT I'M INNOCENT! I NEVER KILLED LANA!
POOR PERRY! I HATE TO TORMENT HIM LIKE THIS! BUT THERE'S NO OTHER WAY!

DAYS LATER, AS THE SENSATIONAL TRIAL OPENS...
THAT'S HER... LOIS LANE! THE GIRL WHO KILLED HER BEST FRIEND BECAUSE SHE WAS JEALOUS OF HER!
THAT'S JUST WHAT I WANT EVERYONE TO THINK! THEY'RE CONVINCED I'M GUILTY EVEN BEFORE MY CASE IS HEARD!

RETURNING TO THE PRESENT ON THE DAY OF THE TRIAL, SUPERMAN IS ASKED TO TESTIFY...
ER--YES, THAT'S THE GUN I GAVE LOIS AT THE TV DEMONSTRATION! SHE SHOT THREE PERMIUM BULLETS AT ME!
THREE BULLETS, EH? YET SIX EMPTY SHELLS WERE FOUND IN THAT GUN! I CHARGE THAT LOIS LANE USED THE OTHER THREE BULLETS TO KILL LANA LANG!
NO! I DIDN'T KILL HER!

STAR CITY JUSTICE IS SWIFT, AND AS THE TRIAL ENDS...
LOIS LANE, THE JURY FINDS YOU GUILTY OF FIRST DEGREE MURDER! I HEREBY SENTENCE YOU TO BE EXECUTED ON THE LAST DAY OF THIS MONTH!
THEY'RE GIVING ME THE DEATH PENALTY FOR A CRIME THAT WAS NEVER COMMITTED! THAT SHOULD PROVE HOW CIRCUMSTANTIAL EVIDENCE CAN CONVICT AN INNOCENT PERSON!

AS LOIS GRIMLY FACES HER ORDEAL IN THE DEATH HOUSE...

SO LONG, DEARIE! REMEMBER, WHEN YOU WALK THE LAST MILE, KEEP A STIFF UPPER LIP LIKE ME!

THAT'S "MA BRADDOCK"! POOR THING! THEY'RE EXECUTING HER BECAUSE SHE DID AWAY WITH HER HUSBAND FOR HIS INSURANCE!

IN THE DAYS THAT FOLLOW, **SUPERMAN** IS A FREQUENT VISITOR TO THE PRISON...

LOIS, YOUR EXECUTION IS SCHEDULED FOR TOMORROW! I KNOW YOU'RE HIDING SOMETHING! IF YOU'LL ONLY CONFESS THE TRUTH, PERHAPS THE GOVERNOR WILL SHOW YOU MERCY!

HOW CAN I CONFESS TO A CRIME I NEVER DID?

POOR **SUPERMAN!** HE'S SO WORRIED ABOUT ME! IF HE ONLY KNEW THAT LANA IS PROBABLY ON HER WAY TO FREE ME RIGHT NOW!

BUT AT THAT MOMENT, JUST OFF **VULTURE ISLAND**...

LOIS LANE IS CONDEMNED TO DIE FOR THE MURDER OF LANA LANG TOMORROW...

HA! WHEN I SHOW UP ALIVE AND WELL, THE **STAR CITY** AUTHORITIES WILL REALIZE HOW WRONG THE DEATH PENALTY IS! I'D BETTER HURRY BEFORE THAT STORM STRIKES!

BUT AS THE WINDSWEPT WAVES MOUNT HIGHER...

THAT GIANT WAVE TOPPLED THE BOAT! I'M GOING TO--OH--MY HEAD... HIT A REEF...

THUD!

STUNNED BY THE BLOW, LANA SINKS INTO THE DEPTHS...

GLUB! GLUB! GLUB!

AND AS THE HOURS PASS, TENSION MOUNTS IN DEATH ROW...

MY EXECUTION IS SCHEDULED FOR TOMORROW! SOMETHING'S GONE WRONG! LANA SHOULD HAVE BEEN HERE LONG AGO!

GUARD! PLEASE TELL THE WARDEN I MUST SEE **SUPERMAN!** IT'S AN EMERGENCY!

OKAY! I'LL CONTACT THE WARDEN AT ONCE!

LATER, IN THE WARDEN'S OFFICE, A DESPERATE LOIS TELLS HER STORY...
IT'S TRUE, SUPERMAN! LANA ISN'T DEAD! THE DETAILS AREN'T IMPORTANT, BUT YOU'LL FIND HER ALIVE ON VULTURE ISLAND!
THESE LAST-MINUTE CONFESSIONS ALWAYS SEEM SUSPICIOUS TO ME!
I STILL THINK HER STORY IS WORTH CHECKING, WARDEN!

BUT WHEN THE MAN OF STEEL ARRIVES AT THE STORM-SWEPT ISLAND...
THERE'S NO SIGN OF LIFE HERE!

AS SUPERMAN RETURNS TO STAR CITY PRISON...
LOIS, I CHECKED THE ISLAND! I COULDN'T FIND LANA, AND THERE'S NO EVIDENCE OF ANY KIND TO SUPPORT YOUR STORY!
OH, NO! THIS IS HORRIBLE! WHAT COULD HAVE HAPPENED TO HER?
I COULD TELL SUPERMAN ABOUT OUR SCHEME TO WIPE OUT THE DEATH PENALTY, BUT HE'D NEVER BELIEVE ME! WHO WOULD? ;CHOKE!;

BUT SOON AFTERWARD, SUPERMAN STREAKS TO THE STATE CAPITOL...
GOVERNOR, I JUST CAN'T BELIEVE A KIND GIRL LIKE LOIS COULD MURDER ANY-ONE! PLEASE, I HAVE A PLAN FOR PROVING OR DISPROVING LOIS' INNOCENCE! YOU MUST LET ME TRY IT!
AFTER ALL YOU'VE DONE FOR JUSTICE IN THIS COUNTRY, HOW COULD I REFUSE YOUR REQUEST? GO AHEAD! TRY ANYTHING YOU LIKE!

THE NEXT MORNING, AS LOIS IS GIVEN HER "LAST" MEAL...
HOW CAN I EVEN EAT ONE BITE WHEN I'M DUE... ;SOB;... TO DIE IN THE GAS CHAMBER IN AN HOUR! WHAT A FOOL I WAS TO HOAX THE POLICE!
MISS LANE, THE WARDEN HAS GIVEN PERMISSION FOR YOU TO SEE YOUR LAST VISITOR! IT'S A MRS. LORAT FROM YOUR HOME TOWN!
MRS. LORAT!;GULP!; SHE WAS MY PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHER! THE DEAR SOUL HAS COME TO SAY GOODBYE!

BUT AS LOIS GREETS HER VISITOR...
WAIT! YOU'RE NOT MRS. LORAT! THAT MASK... WHY YOU'RE LANA! THANK HEAVENS YOU'VE COME AT LAST! YOU'RE JUST IN TIME!
IN TIME FOR WHAT, LOIS? I DON'T UNDERSTAND!
7

CUT THE COMEDY! YOU REMEMBER OUR PLAN--WE WERE GOING TO SHOW HOW AN INNOCENT PERSON COULD BE CONDEMNED TO DEATH UNJUSTLY!
IS THAT WHAT WE PLANNED? YOU MEAN YOU EXPECT ME TO SPEAK UP AND SAVE YOU FROM THE GAS CHAMBER?
THAT TAUNTING SMILE ON YOUR FACE!...GASP!...I--I GET IT NOW! YOU'RE NOT GOING TO TESTIFY FOR ME! YOU'RE GOING TO LET ME BE EXECUTED... SO YOU CAN HAVE A CLEAR FIELD WITH SUPERMAN!
NO, LOIS... THE TRUTH IS THAT I AM A...
BUT UNKNOWN TO LOIS, SHE IS UNDER OBSERVATION THROUGH A SECRET TWO-WAY MIRROR...
BETRAYED! DOUBLE-CROSSED BY MY BEST FRIEND! LANA, HOW COULD YOU BE SO CRUEL? OHHHHH!
THE STRAIN'S TOO MUCH FOR HER! SHE'S FAINTED! WE'D BETTER HELP HER!
PRESENTLY, AS LOIS RECOVERS HER SENSES...
SUPERMAN... STOP THAT WOMAN...IT'S LANA, IN DISGUISE!
RELAX, LOIS! THAT'S NOT LANA! THAT'S A SPECIAL LANA LANG ROBOT I BUILT TO HELP SAVE YOU FROM EXECUTION BY TRICKING YOU TO REVEAL THE TRUE STORY OF LANA'S DISAPPEARANCE! IF YOU HAD KILLED LANA, YOU WOULD HAVE REACTED DIFFERENTLY!
MISS LANE, YOU'VE ACTED FOOLISHLY, BUT I BELIEVE YOU ARE INNOCENT! AS GOVERNOR OF THIS STATE, I PARDON YOU!
THANK YOU, YOUR EXCELLENCY!
THANK HEAVENS!... CHOKE!... IF NOT FOR SUPERMAN, I'D BE IN THE GAS CHAMBER RIGHT NOW!
LATER, AS SUPERMAN ESCORTS LOIS BACK TO METROPOLIS...
WELL, AT LEAST YOU'VE PROVED YOUR POINT, LOIS! YOU'VE SHOWN THAT IT'S POSSIBLE FOR AN INNOCENT PERSON TO BE EXECUTED!
GULP!... YES, I WAS SO VERY CLEVER, WASN'T I? SNIFF! BUT MY CLEVERNESS LOST LANA'S LIFE! SHE WAS PROBABLY DROWNED IN A STORM WHILE ON HER WAY TO FREE ME!

BUT AS THEY SWOOP OVER METROPOLIS HARBOR...
LOIS! LOOK DOWN THERE! AM I SEEING THINGS, OR IS THAT A GHOST?
NO! IT'S LANA! THANK GOODNESS SHE'S STILL ALIVE!
LANA! WE THOUGHT YOU WERE DEAD! HOW DID YOU SURVIVE THAT TERRIBLE STORM?
I THINK I CAN EXPLAIN, SUPERMAN!
IT'S LORI, THE MERMAID!
"LANA INJURED HER HEAD DURING THE STORM! SHE WOULD HAVE DROWNED, BUT LUCKILY I AND SOME OTHERS FROM ATLANTIS WERE NEARBY."
SHE'S BADLY HURT! TAKE HER TO THAT PROTECTIVE DOME! OUR SURGEONS WILL OPERATE ON HER IN THERE! QUICKLY, BEFORE SHE DROWNS!
"IN THAT OXYGEN-FILLED DOME, LANA WAS ABLE TO SURVIVE WHILE OUR DOCTORS REPAIRED THE DAMAGE."
THESE WATER-FILLED HELMETS ENABLE US TO BREATHE IN THE EARTH ATMO-SPHERE OF THIS DOME, WHILE WE OPERATE!
A DIFFICULT JOB OF SURGERY, BUT WITH OUR TECHNIQUE, SHE'LL RECOVER RAPIDLY!
AS LORI FINISHES HER STORY...
NOW I'M FULLY RECOVERED! I OWE YOU MY LIFE, LORI! THANKS!
OH, LANA... CHOKE!... IT'S SO WONDERFUL TO KNOW YOU'RE ALIVE AND WELL! THIS IS THE HAPPIEST DAY OF MY LIFE!
THE NEXT DAY, IN THE PLANET OFFICE...
YOUR SCHEME WORKED, LOIS! LOOK AT THE STORY IN THE STAR CITY PAPER!
YES, BUT LANA AND I NEARLY PAID WITH OUR OWN LIVES TO PROVE WE WERE RIGHT!
STAR CITY RECORD
GOVERNOR RECOMMENDS END OF DEATH PENALTY
9
The End

PEG
LET'S GO IN FOR A SODA, PEG !
SODA
THERE'S THAT CREEP, ROGER. HE'S NEVER TREATED A GIRL TO A SODA —NOT ONCE!
HMM - HE'S BUSY READING A BOOK.
I'LL GET HIM TO TREAT ME TO A SODA !
HOW, PEG ?
LIKE THIS!
SLURP

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SUPERMAN'S GIRL FRIEND LOIS LANE

LOIS LANE HAS ALWAYS SUSPECTED THAT **SUPERMAN** WAS REALLY CLARK KENT, THE TIMID **DAILY PLANET** REPORTER. SO IMAGINE LOIS' SHOCKED AMAZEMENT WHEN SHE DISCOVERS EVIDENCE TO PROVE THAT **SUPERMAN** HAS BEEN FOOLING ALL METROPOLIS FOR YEARS BY MASQUERADING AS A **HAPPY HUMOR ICE-CREAM MAN!** BUT SHE DOESN'T REALIZE THAT SHE HAS FALLEN FOR THE DIABOLICAL PLOT OF... *The* **FALSE SUPERMAN!**

I'M TREATING YOU TO A **HAPPY HUMOR** POP, LOIS. HA! DON'T SAY I NEVER GAVE YOU ANYTHING!
LANA WOULD SIMPLY **DIE** IF SHE KNEW THIS **HAPPY HUMOR** SALESMAN IS REALLY MY DREAMBOAT, **SUPERMAN,** IN HIS SECRET IDENTITY!
HAPPY HUMOR
HAPPY HU

ONE DAY, IN THE OFFICE OF THE **DAILY PLANET,** AS REPORTER LOIS LANE GETS AN ANONYMOUS CALL...

SOON AFTERWARD, NEAR THE BRIDGE...

LOIS LANE IS COMING, MIKE! QUICK, PUT ON THAT **IMITATION** SUPERMAN COSTUME I HAD MADE FOR YOU, AND TAKE OFF YOUR FAKE MUSTACHE!
SO SHE SWALLOWED THAT SABOTAGE STORY, EH? HA, HA! THIS IS WHERE SHE GETS THE SHOCK OF HER LIFE!

MEANWHILE...
THIS IS PROBABLY A WILD-GOOSE CHASE! BUT IF THAT ANONYMOUS PHONE CALL WAS ON THE LEVEL, THIS COULD BE A BIG SCOOP FOR ME!

SHORTLY AFTERWARD...
GOOD GRIEF! SOME SABOTEUR PLANTED DYNAMITE STICKS UNDER THE BRIDGE AND... WHY, THERE'S SUPERMAN!
THOSE EXPLOSIVES LOOK LIKE THE REAL THING! THAT LANE DAME WILL NEVER GUESS THEY'RE HOLLYWOOD PROPS USED IN BATTLE SCENES DESIGNED TO MAKE A LOT OF HARMLESS NOISE!

AN INSTANT LATER...
THE NONCHALANT WAY HE WRAPPED THAT DYNAMITE IN HIS CAPE, AND MUFFLED THE POWER OF THE EXPLOSION! SIGH! ISN'T HE MAGNIFICENT!
WHUUMP!

BUT AS LOIS CONTINUES WATCHING...
SUPERMAN DIDN'T SPOT ME! (GULP!)
HE'S CHANGING INTO HIS SECRET IDENTITY! WHAT A BREAK! NOW I'LL KNOW THE ANSWER TO THE MYSTERY AT LAST!
HAPPY HUMOR

A STARTLING MOMENT LATER, LOIS MAKES AN AMAZING "DISCOVERY"...
SO THAT'S HOW HE DISGUISES HIMSELF! AS A HAPPY HUMOR ICE CREAM MAN WITH A FALSE MUSTACHE! AND ALL THESE YEARS I NEVER SUSPECTED!
SUPERMAN! WAIT!
ER... ARE YOU TALKING TO ME, MISS?
HAPP

DON'T GIVE ME THAT ROUTINE! I JUST SAW YOU SWITCH INTO THIS UNIFORM! I DARE YOU TO DENY YOU'RE SUPERMAN!
ER- YOU'VE FOUND ME OUT AT LAST, LOIS! I ADMIT IT! IN EVERYDAY LIFE I'M MIKE DAWSON, ICE CREAM SALESMAN!
HAPPY HUMOR
CAREFUL, LOIS! YOU'RE WALKING INTO A CUNNINGLY PREPARED TRAP!
2

HA, HA! YOU MIGHT HAVE KNOWN YOU COULDN'T OUTWIT ME FOREVER!
YOU'RE RIGHT, LOIS! IN A WAY I'M GLAD YOU DISCOVERED MY SECRET! I'LL MEET YOU OUTSIDE THE PLANET OFFICE LATER! I HAVE SOMETHING VERY INTERESTING TO TELL YOU!

SOON, AFTER LOIS DEPARTS...
WHAT AN ACT! YOUR EXPERIENCE AS A CIRCUS ACROBAT SURE CAME IN HANDY WHEN YOU DIVED OFF THAT BRIDGE!
YEAH! LOIS LANE IS CONVINCED I'M SUPERMAN! NOW WE CAN START PHASE TWO OF OUR PLAN, HACK!

YES, LOIS HAS BEEN DUPED BY A CLEVER SCHEME!
LATER, BACK AT THE DAILY PLANET...
SIGH! NOW THAT I'VE DISCOVERED SUPERMAN'S IDENTITY, WHO KNOWS WHAT THE FUTURE WILL BRING? THE SECRET WE SHARE WILL BRING US CLOSER TOGETHER...
LOIS! YOU'RE DAY-DREAMING!

LOIS, DIDN'T YOU HEAR ME? THESE TAPES CONTAIN SECRET TESTIMONY SPOKEN BY A COURAGEOUS WITNESS WHO WILL EXPOSE THE OPERATIONS OF "MR. BIG"!
MR. BIG? HE'S THE MYSTERIOUS HEAD OF THE RACKETS SYNDICATE TRYING TO MUSCLE INTO METROPOLIS!

SENATOR BURNS IS VISITING ME TOMORROW! I'M GOING TO TELL HIM THE NAME OF THE KEY WITNESS WHO TESTIFIED ON THOSE TAPES! THESE SECRET SERVICE MEN ARE DETAILED TO GUARD ME, JUST IN CASE MR. BIG MAY TRY TO KNOCK ME OFF FIRST!
WE'VE CHECKED THE WALLS, MR. WHITE! THERE ARE NO HIDDEN MICROPHONES IN THIS ROOM!

EXCELLENT! THEN NO ONE CAN LISTEN IN WHEN I REVEAL THE NAME OF THE KEY WITNESS! I'LL PUT THESE TAPES IN MY SAFE UNTIL THE SENATOR COMES!

AND JUST THINK! I OFTEN SUSPECTED THAT TIMID MOUSE, CLARK KENT, WAS REALLY SUPERMAN! HOW RIDICULOUS CAN YOU GET?

LATER, AS LOIS EMERGES FROM THE PLANET OFFICE...
THERE'S SUPERMAN NOW, IN HIS HAPPY HUMOR MAN DISGUISE... OH-OH! THAT GIRL HE'S SERVING... IT'S LANA LANG!
HAPPY HUMOR
HAPPY HUMOR

HERE, MY GOOD MAN! KEEP THE CHANGE!
HA, HA! LANA WOULD REALLY FLIP IF SHE KNEW THAT THE MAN SHE IS TIPPING IS REALLY HER DREAMBOAT, SUPERMAN!

AS LANA LEAVES...
SUPERMAN... I MEAN MIKE! YOU SAID THERE WAS SOMETHING YOU WANTED TO TELL ME!
THAT'S RIGHT, LOIS! WAIT TILL I DRIVE THE TRUCK INTO THAT DESERTED ALLEY WHERE NO ONE CAN SEE US!

PRESENTLY, IN THE ALLEY...
SPACE MONITOR
KANDORIAN MONITOR
POLICE RADIO
HMM! WHILE YOU CRUISE THROUGH METROPOLIS, YOU CAN KEEP AN EYE OUT FOR EMERGENCIES EVERYWHERE! HOW SUPER-CLEVER!
NOW THAT YOU KNOW MY SECRET IDENTITY, LOIS, I MAY AS WELL SHOW YOU HOW I OPERATE! THIS TRUCK IS MY COMMUNICATIONS CENTER!

AT THAT MOMENT, IN A PENTHOUSE OWNED BY HACK DACEY...
I'M CUTTING IN ON THE POLICE WAVE-LENGTH! THEY'RE CALLING SUPER-MAN TO THE METROPOLIS TV TOWER!
I CAN SEE HIM NOW, ON THE WAY! BETTER SIGNAL MIKE ON HIS WRIST RADIO AT ONCE! HE'LL KNOW HOW TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THIS!
AN INSTANT LATER...
THE BOSS... SIGNALING ME! GOTTA LISTEN AND MAKE SURE SHE DOESN'T HEAR!
ER... I THINK MY WATCH STOPPED, LOIS! I'D BETTER SEE IF IT'S TICKING!
HAPPY HUMOR
HAPPY
OH-OH! MY TELESCOPIC VISION HAS JUST SPOTTED AN EMERGENCY AT THE TV TOWER WHICH I'LL HAVE TO TAKE CARE OF IMMEDIATELY! I GUESS I'LL HAVE TO LET YOU IN ON ANOTHER ONE OF MY SECRETS, LOIS!
...MIKE! SUPERMAN IS HEADING FOR THE METROPOLIS TV TOWER NOW!
HAPPY HUMOR
LOIS DOESN'T KNOW IT, BUT THE FALSE SUPERMAN IS ACTUALLY BEING CATAPULTED BY A MECHANISM HIDDEN IN A SECRET COMPARTMENT...
ICE CREAM COMPARTMENT
SPRING-OPERATED CATAPULT
COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM
INSTANTS AFTERWARD, THE FALSE SUPER-MAN EMERGES AGAIN, STREAKING UPWARD...
A HIDDEN OPENING ON TOP OF THE TRUCK! GASP! SO THAT'S HOW SUPERMAN SEEMS TO APPEAR OUT OF NOWHERE WHENEVER THERE'S AN EMERGENCY!
GOOD-BYE, LOIS!
HAPPY

THEN, ATOP AN ABANDONED WAREHOUSE...
RIGHT ON TARGET, MIKE! YOUR CIRCUS EXPERIENCE AS A HUMAN CANNONBALL CAME IN HANDY, TOO!
HA, HA! THAT FLYING ACT OUGHT TO CONVINCE LOIS LANE I'M SUPERMAN!

WHEN LOIS ARRIVES AT THE TV TOWER...
HUNDREDS SAW HIM SAVE THAT ARMY PARACHUTIST WHO ACCIDENTALLY GOT CAUGHT ON THE TV TOWER! BUT ONLY I KNOW THAT SUPERMAN IS REALLY MIKE DAWSON... A HAPPY HUMOR MAN!
POOR LOIS! SHE DOESN'T REALIZE THIS IS THE REAL MAN OF STEEL!

MEANWHILE, BACK IN THE DESERTED ALLEY...
IT'S TIME FOR YOU TO PUT ON YOUR BRAINIAC ACT, BOSS! THAT FAKE KANDOR BOTTLE GIMMICK YOU DREAMED UP IS TERRIFIC! NO WONDER THEY CALL YOU "MR. BIG"!
BUTTON YOUR LIP! NO ONE MUST EVER DISCOVER WHO I AM! THAT'S THE WHOLE PURPOSE OF OUR SCHEME!

THAT AFTERNOON, AS LOIS INVESTIGATES A STRANGE SOUND ON THE ROOF OF HER APARTMENT HOUSE...
GULP! IT'S BRAINIAC, THE SCIENTIST-OUTLAW! HE'S ONE OF SUPERMAN'S CLEVEREST ENEMIES!
AH! LOIS LANE-- SUPERMAN'S GIRL-FRIEND! YOU'VE SAVED ME THE TROUBLE OF BREAKING INTO YOUR APARTMENT! STAND WHERE YOU ARE, OR THIS GUN WILL EVAPORATE YOU!
HUMMMMMM

"AS YOU KNOW, LONG BEFORE KRYPTON EXPLODED, I USED A SHRINKING RAY TO REDUCE ITS CITY OF KANDOR TO MICROSCOPIC SIZE AND SEALED IT IN A BOTTLE!"

"BUT SUPERMAN TOOK KANDOR AWAY FROM ME AFTER BESTING ME IN A DUEL AND PUT ME ON A PRISON ASTEROID AS PUNISHMENT..."

BUT I HAVE ESCAPED! TO REVENGE MYSELF AGAINST SUPERMAN, I MUST RECAPTURE KANDOR! BUT SUPERMAN HAS TAKEN IT OUT OF HIS FORTRESS AND HIDDEN IT SOMEWHERE! YOU MUST KNOW WHERE IT IS!
THAT FOR YOU, BRAINIAC! EVEN IF I KNEW, I WOULDN'T TELL YOU!
SNAP!

SHE'S REACTING AS I THOUGHT SHE WOULD! NOW TO THREATEN HER WITH THIS PHONEY "HYPNO-WHEEL"!
YOU MUST KNOW WHERE KANDOR IS! YOU'VE BEEN SEEN WITH SUPERMAN LATELY, SO HE MUST HAVE CONFIDED THE SECRET IN YOU! MY HYPNO-WHEEL WILL FORCE YOU TO REVEAL THE TRUTH!
DO YOUR WORST, YOU BULLY! YOU'LL GET NOTHING OUT OF ME!

BAH! MY HYPNO-WHEEL IS ADJUSTED TO THE BRAIN PATTERNS OF ADVANCED MENTALITIES! YOUR PRIMITIVE MIND RESISTS ITS POWER! I MAY AS WELL GO!
I MUST TELL SUPERMAN ABOUT THIS AT ONCE! THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE LIVE IN THE CITY OF KANDOR, AND THEIR LIVES ARE AT STAKE!

BUT AS LOIS LEAVES...
HA, HA! SHE'D FLIP IF SHE KNEW I WAS "MR. BIG"! THIS BUBBLE IS LIFTED BY A UNIQUE LIGHTER-THAN-AIR GAS! FILTERS IN MY NOSTRILS PERMIT ME TO BREATHE SAFELY! SHE FELL FOR MY STORY AND PROBABLY CAN'T WAIT TO SPILL IT TO MIKE!

MEANWHILE, LOIS SEARCHES THE STREETS OF METROPOLIS...
THERE'S SUPERMAN NOW, SELLING ICE CREAM TO MEMBERS OF THE JIMMY OLSEN FAN CLUB!
CHOCOLATE!
STRAWBERRY!
ONE VANILLA!
WAIT, BOYS! IT'S TOUGH TO READ THE LABELS IN THIS DARK FREEZER COMPARTMENT!
HAPPY HUMOR

AS THE FAN CLUB LEAVES, THE TRUCK TURNS INTO AN ALLEY, WHERE... SUPERMAN!
I'VE BEEN LOOKING EVERYWHERE FOR YOU! BRAINIAC VISITED ME! HE'S HUNTING FOR THE BOTTLE OF KANDOR!
I WAS AFRAID OF THAT! MY MONITOR SYSTEM WARNED ME BRAINIAC HAD COME TO EARTH!

AS THE FALSE SUPERMAN SWITCHES HIS COSTUME...

...THAT'S WHY I TOOK THE BOTTLE OUT OF MY FORTRESS SO I COULD GUARD IT CONSTANTLY! BUT NOW I MUST JOURNEY TO A DISTANT GALAXY! SINCE **BRAINIAC** HAS QUESTIONED YOU, I DON'T THINK HE'LL BOTHER YOU AGAIN, SO I WANT YOU TO HIDE IT IN THE **PLANET** SAFE!

A GREAT IDEA! I'LL GO THERE AT ONCE!

SOON AFTERWARD, AT "MR. BIG'S" PENTHOUSE APARTMENT...

GREAT! OUR PLAN WORKED JUST AS WE FIGURED! LOIS GOT PERRY WHITE TO HIDE THE FAKE BOTTLE IN HIS OFFICE SAFE!

THE NEXT DAY, AS SENATOR BURNS VISITS THE **PLANET**...

THESE TAPES CONTAIN JUST THE EVIDENCE WE NEED, MR. WHITE! BUT YOU PROMISED TO REVEAL THE NAME OF THE KEY WITNESS WHO KNOWS THE IDENTITY OF "MR. BIG"!

SENATOR, THE MAN YOU WANT WAS "MR. BIG'S" PARTNER IN THE RACKETS UNTIL HE DECIDED TO GO STRAIGHT!

BUT AT THAT MOMENT, A SUPER-SENSITIVE MICROPHONE AND MINIATURE RADIO HIDDEN IN THE FAKE BOTTLE OF KANDOR ARE BROADCASTING THE DETAILS OF THE CONFERENCE...

THE WITNESS IS "MUGGS" DORAN! HE'S AT HIS HOME NOW! HE'S READY TO TESTIFY!

AND IN MR. BIG'S PENTHOUSE, EAGER EARS LISTEN...

"MUGGS" DORAN WILL BE GLAD TO NAME THE MYSTERIOUS "MR. BIG"!

THAT'S WHAT THEY THINK! THANKS TO MY TRICKING LOIS LANE INTO PLANTING THAT MICROPHONE IN THE **PLANET** SAFE, WE KNOW WHO TO KNOCK OFF NOW! LET'S GET HIM!

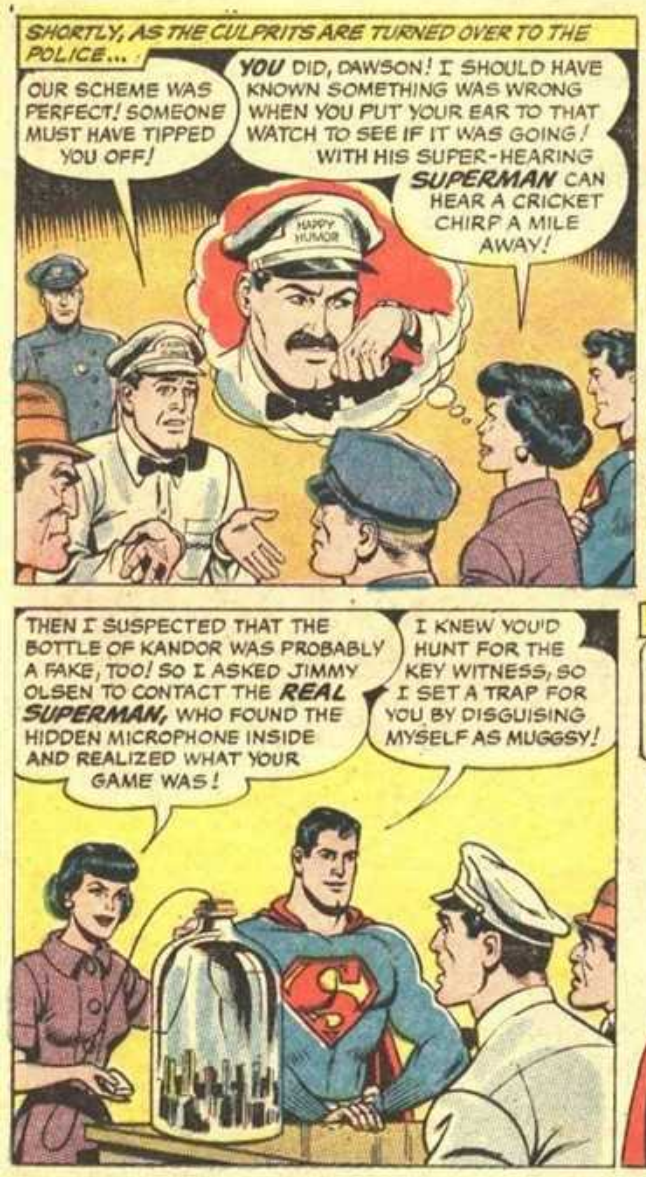
SOON AFTERWARD, IN "MUGGSY" DORAN'S HOME...

THERE'S THE SQUEALER! GET HIM, MEN! HE'LL NEVER BE ABLE TO TESTIFY AGAINST ME!

GASP! IT'S NOT MUGGSY! IT'S **SUPERMAN!** THE **REAL SUPERMAN!** THE BULLETS BOUNCE OFF HIM LIKE JELLYBEANS!

DON'T BOTHER TO SHOOT! NOT EVEN A MACHINE GUN CAN HELP YOU NOW!

RAT-TAT-TAT!


SHORTLY, AS THE CULPRITS ARE TURNED OVER TO THE POLICE...
OUR SCHEME WAS PERFECT! SOMEONE MUST HAVE TIPPED YOU OFF!
YOU DID, DAWSON! I SHOULD HAVE KNOWN SOMETHING WAS WRONG WHEN YOU PUT YOUR EAR TO THAT WATCH TO SEE IF IT WAS GOING! WITH HIS SUPER-HEARING SUPERMAN CAN HEAR A CRICKET CHIRP A MILE AWAY!
HAPPY HUMOR

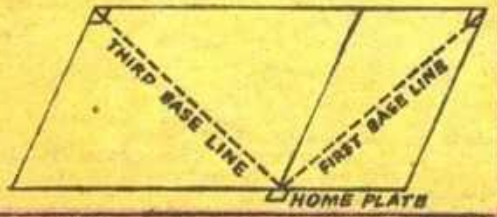
"BUT I WAS POSITIVE YOU WERE A FALSE SUPERMAN WHEN YOU COULDN'T FIND THE ICE CREAM FLAVORS YOU WANTED IN YOUR TRUCK!"
ONE AT A TIME, BOYS! IT'S TOUGH TO READ THESE LABELS IN THIS DARK FREEZER COMPARTMENT!
HAPPY HUMOR
STRANGE! SUPERMAN'S X-RAY VISION SHOULD HELP HIM SEE ANYTHING IN THE DARK!

THEN I SUSPECTED THAT THE BOTTLE OF KANDOR WAS PROBABLY A FAKE, TOO! SO I ASKED JIMMY OLSEN TO CONTACT THE REAL SUPERMAN, WHO FOUND THE HIDDEN MICROPHONE INSIDE AND REALIZED WHAT YOUR GAME WAS!
I KNEW YOU'D HUNT FOR THE KEY WITNESS, SO I SET A TRAP FOR YOU BY DISGUISING MYSELF AS MUGGSY!

AS THE CRIMINALS ARE DRAGGED OFF TO THEIR CELLS...
LOIS, I'M ALWAYS BAWLING YOU OUT FOR BEING RECKLESS AND FOLLOWING YOUR FOOLISH HUNCHES! BUT THIS TIME YOUR INTUITION PAID OFF!
BUT I'M RIGHT BACK WHERE I STARTED! I STILL DON'T KNOW SUPERMAN'S REAL IDENTITY! SIGH! BUT ISN'T HE MAGNIFICENT!
The End

ADVERTISEMENT

THE TEAM DECIDED TO PLAY BALL SO THEY PAINTED DOTTED BASELINES IN THE SCHOOL YARD. ONE PLAYER SAID THE DISTANCE FROM HOMEPLATE TO FIRST BASE WAS SHORTER THAN THE DISTANCE FROM HOMEPLATE TO THIRD BASE. WHAT DO YOU THINK?



ANSWER:
HE WAS WRONG! THE DISTANCES WERE EXACTLY THE SAME.

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Letters to Lois

Dear Editor: I enjoyed your recent story, "The Devil and Lois Lane." But at the end of the story, when Lana Lang appears as the bridesmaid, you show her with blonde hair instead of red. Get out of this one. Ha! Ha!

Donald Topps, Raleigh, N. C.

(Get off our back. That was LUCY LANE with the blonde hair, not Lana. And we hope everyone in Raleigh gives *you* the horse-laugh for jumping to conclusions!—Ed.)

• • •

Dear Editor: In behalf of the men at Keesler Air Force Base, I would like to request that you dream up a story in which Lois Lane visits our base and selects one of our men to be her week-end date. After all, we are great admirers of Lois and buy each issue of your magazine.

Sgt. —, (name withheld) Biloxi, Miss.

(Sorry, but Keesler Air Force Base is off-limits to Lois, and will be, until you send us a letter signed with your name, rank and serial number. Lois heeds no anonymous mash notes, Sgt. Wolf!—Ed.)

• • •

Dear Editor: For some time now a certain contingent of your readers, the vociferous Lana Lang fans, have been howling that you are unfair to Lana, and that Lois hogs all juicy stories. These fans have also accused you of giving special concessions to Lois, particularly on your covers. Well, to answer these critics, let me point out that on the cover of LOIS LANE No. 40, you showed Lois as a pathetic old hag, hardly recognizable. In contrast, Lana is shown as sparkling and vivacious, walking off arm-in-arm with Superman. More recently, on the cover of SUPERMAN No. 162, you show a full-size Lana Lang, married to "Superman-Blue", and with two super-children. In contrast, on that same cover, you show a Lois Lane about one-third Lana's size, married to "Superman-Red", who has no super-powers . . . and their children likewise have no super-powers. I think these recent two covers prove beyond a doubt that Lois does not always get the juicy parts and that you are striving to be fair in your treatment of both girls.

Mae Berne, New Brunswick, N. J.

(That's an eloquent defense, and thanks. Incidentally, we never saw any Lana Lang fans who complain about the fact that Lana practically monopolizes SUPERBOY in SUPERBOY Comics and in ADVENTURE.—Ed.)

• • •

Dear Editor: I'm tired of seeing the mighty Superman turning down all women, including Lois and Lana, because of his "career." That "career" jazz is just a smokescreen to hide the fact that the Man of Steel has a Heart of Steel. He has no more emotion than a computer machine, and the tragic truth is that he has no romance in his soul. If you ask me, the big ape is in love only with one person—himself! I'm afraid that Lois and Lana will spend all their lives WAITING AT THE CHURCH.

Charmine Manceau, New Orleans, La.

(How wrong you are! On various occasions Superman has proved that he is human, capable of giving great love and affection to beloved ones, even if it meant sacrificing his own life. His heart-breaking romance with Lori, the Mermaid of Atlantis, is a case in point. Another example is the story of Superman's hopeless love for Lyla Lerrol, whom he met when he traveled back into time to the planet Krypton—only to find out that you can't change the past. But if you still want to be convinced, we challenge you to read "The Sweetheart Superman Forgot" in the next issue of SUPERMAN. (No. 165.) After you read this memorable story we think you'll concede there is hope for both Lois and Lana.—Ed.)

Note: Send all comments for this department on a postal card to LETTERS TO LOIS, National Periodical Publications, Inc., 575 Lexington Avenue, New York 22, N. Y.

Coming... Super-Attractions!
OCT. JIMMY OLSEN ON SALE AUG. 15th
THE FANTASTIC FORMS OF JIMMY OLSEN COME TO LIFE WHEN HE IS EXILED ON... "The WORLD of DOOMED OLSENS!"
See Jimmy as MOLE-BOY... The GIANT TURTLE MAN... The HUMAN PORCUPINE... ELASTIC LAD!
OCT. SUPERBOY ON SALE AUG. 15th
DID YOU KNOW THAT YEARS BEFORE KAL-EL (SUPERBABY) LANDED ON EARTH, MARTHA AND JONATHAN KENT HAD ADOPTED ANOTHER INFANT WITH SUPER-POWERS?
WHY HAVE THEY KEPT THIS A SECRET FROM CLARK?
For the sensational answer, read... "The KENTS' FIRST SUPER-SON!"
OCT. SUPERMAN NOW ON SALE
"The Showdown Between Lutbor and Superman!"
SOME SUPERMAN YOU ARE, WITHOUT YOUR KRYPTONIAN POWERS! I GAVE YOU A BLACK EYE, AND NOW I'M GOING TO GIVE YOU THE BEATING OF YOUR LIFE!
SUPERMAN DC NATIONAL COMICS

SUPERMAN'S GIRL FRIEND

LOIS LANE

THIS IS THE ELECTRONIC AGE! MANKIND HAS MACHINES FOR EVERY PURPOSE! WELL, SUPPOSE THERE WAS A GADGET THAT COULD SETTLE THE BITTER RIVALRY BETWEEN LOIS LANE AND LANA LANG FOR SUPERMAN'S LOVE... A MACHINE WHICH COULD REVEAL WHOM SUPERMAN PREFERRED! WHICH GIRL WOULD BE CHOSEN? WHICH WOULD BE DOOMED TO HEARTBREAK AND LONELINESS? LOIS OR LANA... CAN YOU GUESS THE ONE WHO WOULD BE—

SUPERMAN'S SURPRISE CHOICE!

HA! HA! READ IT AND WEEP, LOIS! THE LOVE DETECTOR LOVES ME BEST! REMEMBER OUR BARGAIN?
CHOKE!... DON'T RUB IT IN, LANA! I KNOW OUR AGREEMENT. AS LOSER, I MUST LEAVE METROPOLIS AND STAY OUT OF SUPERMAN'S LIFE FOREVER!
LOIS LANE
LANA LANG
Schaffenberger

ONE DAY, AS LOIS LANE, GIRL REPORTER, RECEIVES AN INVITATION FROM HER FRIEND, LANA LANG...
MY TV STATION IS GIVING A PARTY FOR SOME BIG-WIG AUTHORS! COME ON OVER... I HAVE A DOZEN HANDSOME WRITERS DYING TO MEET YOU!
TERRIFIC! I'LL BE RIGHT THERE, LANA!
THAT FOXY GAL IS UP TO HER OLD TRICKS!

LANA HOPES I'LL FALL FOR SOME ELIGIBLE BACHELOR AND FORGET SUPERMAN! BUT I'LL OUTSMART HER BY ATTENDING THAT PARTY AND GETTING AN EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW WITH LANCE CASEY, THE PULITZER PRIZE WINNER WHO'S SCHEDULED TO BE THERE!

BUT AS LOIS ARRIVES AT THE TV STUDIO...
NOW HERE'S A COOL CHICK! WELCOME TO THE BRAWL! I'M ANDREW KLOPPER, WRITER OF TERSE VERSE! YOU DIG?
ULP! LIKE CRAZY, MAN!
IT'S A BEATNIK CONVENTION, AND LANCE CASEY ISN'T HERE! JUST WAIT TILL I SEE LANA!
BUT MOMENTS LATER, ON A TV MONITOR SCREEN...
...AND NOW SUPERMAN WILL HELP PROFESSOR POTTER'S NEW ELECTRONIC COMPUTER STORE UP THE KNOWLEDGE AND WISDOM CONTAINED IN THE WORLD'S GREATEST BOOKS!
LANA! SHE'S SCOOPING ME ON A SUPERMAN STORY!
AS SUPERMAN GLANCES THROUGH THAT ENCYCLOPEDIA, HIS BRAIN IMPULSES TRANSFER ITS CONTENTS INTO THE COMPUTER'S MEMORY TANKS! ISN'T HE WONDERFUL, FOLKS?
LISTEN TO HER BUTTER UP SUPERMAN! I KNOW JUST WHAT SHE'S UP TO!
SHORTLY, AT PROFESSOR POTTER'S LAB AFTER SUPERMAN HAS LEFT...
YOU JEALOUS SNEAK! DELIBERATELY TRICKING ME SO YOU COULD GET AN EXCLUSIVE STORY ABOUT MY BOY-FRIEND, SUPERMAN!
REALLY, LOIS! CAN I HELP IT THAT PROFESSOR POTTER IS MY UNCLE AND THAT HE TIPPED ME OFF TO THE STORY?
IN CASE OF FIRE
YOU SCHEMER! I WARN YOU— KEEP AWAY FROM SUPERMAN!
TRY AND MAKE ME!
DEAR, DEAR! MY NIECE, LANA, FIGHTING WITH MY FRIEND LOIS! THE WATER IN THIS FIRE BUCKET SHOULD PUT A STOP TO IT!
SPLUSH!
AS THE COMBATANTS COOL OFF...
GIRLS, LET'S BE CIVILIZED! SUPPOSE I INVENT A LOVE-DETECTING MACHINE WHICH WILL SHOW WHICH ONE OF YOU SUPERMAN REALLY LOVES! THAT SUPER-COMPUTER WILL HELP ME DESIGN IT!
HMM... NOT A BAD IDEA! THAT WAY WE'D SETTLE THE ARGUMENT ONCE AND FOR ALL!

YOU'RE RIGHT, PROFESSOR! I'M SICK OF THIS SQUABBLING! I'M GOING ABROAD ON AN ASSIGNMENT! I'LL BE BACK IN TWO WEEKS! HAVE THAT LOVE DETECTOR READY BY THEN! I'LL BE READY FOR IT!
AND THAT GOES FOR ME, TOO!

TWO WEEKS LATER, AS LOIS RETURNS TO METROPOLIS WITH HER SISTER, STEWARDESS LUCY LANE...
BEING ASSIGNED TO YOUR FLIGHT WAS A LUCKY ACCIDENT FOR ME, LOIS! IT'S A SHAME I HAVE TO FLY TO WASHINGTON!... WILL YOU PLEASE MAIL THIS ENVELOPE FOR ME?
WHY, CERTAINLY, LUCY DEAR! I'D BE HAPPY TO!

BUT AS LOIS IS ABOUT TO MAIL THE LETTER...
HMM... LUCY SEEMS TO BE ENTERING SOME KIND OF CONTEST! I WONDER WHAT IT'S ALL ABOUT!
L. LANE 1356
BUILD-A-WORD SWEEPSTAKES BOX 224, METROPOLIS

THE MYSTERY IS CLEARED UP WHEN LOIS ARRIVES AT THE OFFICE OF THE DAILY PLANET...
Enter the BUILD-A-WORD SWEEPSTAKES
HOW MANY WORDS CAN YOU BUILD WITH THE LETTERS IN THE NAME "DAILY PLANET"? TRY YOUR SKILL! 1ST PRIZE—A $5000 SPORTS CAR! FOR DETAILS SEE THE DAILY PLANET!
LOIS! I'M SWAMPED WITH WORK! THIS CONTEST BEGAN WHILE YOU WERE AWAY! I'M SUPPOSED TO CHECK THE TOTAL NUMBER OF WORDS IN EACH ENTRY WHICH THE CONTESTANT LISTS ON THE ENVELOPE! SO FAR THIS ENVELOPE HAS THE HIGHEST NUMBER OF WORDS!
HMM... SO THAT'S THE CONTEST LUCY ENTERED!
K. PETERS 1135
BUILD-A-WORD SWEEPSTAKES BOX 224, METROPOLIS

THEN...
OH, BY THE WAY, PROFESSOR POTTER ASKED YOU TO COME TO HIS LAB THIS AFTERNOON! HE LEFT THIS KEY FOR YOU! YOU'RE TO GO IN AND WAIT FOR HIM IN CASE HE'S LATE!
THANKS, JIMMY!
THE PROFESSOR MUST HAVE FINISHED THAT LOVE-DETECTOR HE WAS PLANNING TO BUILD! GULP! NOW I'LL FIND OUT IF SUPERMAN REALLY LOVES ME!

THAT AFTERNOON, IN THE POTTER LABORATORY...
OH, PROFESSOR, I'VE BEEN LOOKING AT YOUR COMPUTER WHILE I WAITED FOR YOU!
GLAD YOU'RE HERE, LOIS! LANA BROUGHT ALONG ANGEL LE FLEUR, THE FAMOUS MOVIE STAR, TO HELP TEST THIS LOVE-DETECTOR I INVENTED!
3

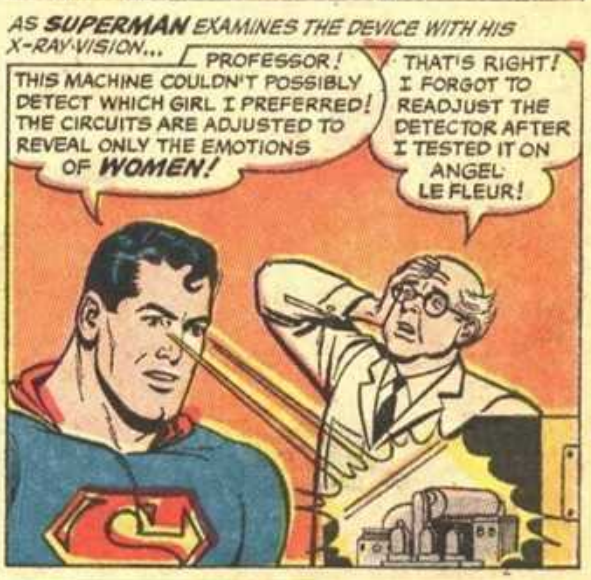
AS THE PROFESSOR ADJUSTS HIS DEVICE...
MISS DE FLEUR, ACCORDING TO THE GOSSIP COLUMNS, YOU HAVE A RAFT OF BOY-FRIENDS!
BUT THESE TWO LEAD THE FIELD... GLEN FORREST, THE ASTRONAUT, AND PRINCE ALI HABAB! LET'S SEE IF THAT MACHINE CAN TELL WHICH ONE I REALLY CARE FOR!
PRESENTLY, AS THE DETECTOR IS SWITCHED ON...
AH! THE INSTRUMENT IS NOW RECORDING THE EMOTIONAL ENERGY WHICH EXPRESSES YOUR BASIC FEELINGS!... IT SAYS YOU LOVE GLEN FORREST, THE ASTRONAUT!
AMAZINGLY CORRECT! HERE'S THE RING GLEN GAVE ME! WE'RE TO BE MARRIED NEXT MONTH!
SOON, AS THE ACTRESS LEAVES...
THE DETECTOR WORKS PERFECTLY! BUT BEFORE WE TRY IT ON SUPERMAN, HERE'S A LITTLE DOCUMENT I WANT YOU TO SIGN, LOIS... IT ALREADY BEARS MY SIGNATURE!
WE, THE UNDERSIGNED, AGREE TO LET THE LOVE-DETECTOR DECIDE WHICH ONE OF US SUPERMAN CARES FOR MOST. THE LOSER PLEDGES TO RESIGN HER JOB, LEAVE THE COUNTRY AND GET OUT OF SUPERMAN'S LIFE FOREVER!
SIGNED: Lana Lang
SIGNED:
WITH TREMBLING HANDS LOIS TAKES A PEN, AND...
PUT YOUR NAME ON THE DOTTED LINE, IF YOU DARE, LOIS!
Y-YOU D-DON'T SCARE ME! I'LL SIGN!
THIS MAY MEAN GIVING UP SUPERMAN, BUT I MUST KNOW THE TRUTH! I MUST!
NOW TO MASK THE LOVE-DETECTOR WITH THIS FAKE DIAL MADE OF LEAD! I EXPECT SUPERMAN SHORTLY! WE'LL TELL HIM THIS MACHINE IS DESIGNED TO MEASURE THE STRENGTH OF HIS HEART!
HEART-METER
LOIS LANE
SOON, AS SUPERMAN ARRIVES...
GLAD TO SEE YOU, SUPERMAN! I'D LIKE TO TEST THIS HEART-METER BY TRYING IT OUT ON YOU!
AND I'M HERE TO COVER THE STORY! MY READERS WILL BE INTERESTED TO KNOW HOW SUPER-STRONG YOUR HEART IS!
I'LL BE GLAD TO HELP!
HEART METER

BUT AS THE TEST BEGINS...
HE DOESN'T KNOW IT, BUT THAT MACHINE WILL REVEAL WHETHER HE LOVES ME OR NOT! ... GULP! THE NEEDLE ISN'T MOVING! THE DETECTOR MAY BE STUCK! I'LL HAVE TO DO SOMETHING AT ONCE!
HUMMMM!
THINKING FAST, LOIS STEPS FORWARD...
I'M SORRY, SUPERMAN! SOMETHING SEEMS TO BE WRONG! BUT SOMETIMES YOU CAN GET THESE GADGETS TO WORK BY STRIKING THEM A COUPLE OF TIMES!
JUST A MINUTE, LOIS!
RAPP! RAPP!
HUMMM!
BUT SUDDENLY...
IT'S WORKING NOW! GASP! YOUR HEART IS SO SUPER-STRONG ITS STRENGTH SHATTERED THE MACHINE!
GOSH, I'M SORRY, PROFESSOR!
BUZZZ!
ZZAPP!
AS SUPERMAN LEAVES...
SORRY, BUT I'VE GOT TO GO NOW! I'M LEAVING EARTH FOR A COUPLE OF WEEKS ON A VITAL MISSION TO A DISTANT GALAXY! GOODBYE, ALL!
THIS IS IT! IN A FEW SECONDS WE'LL KNOW WHICH OF US HE CHOSE!
TENSE MOMENTS LATER...
READ IT AND WEEP, LOIS! HA, HA! SUPERMAN'S LOVE FOR ME WAS SO OVERWHELMING, IT BROKE THE DETECTOR!
YOU CAT! DO YOU HAVE TO RUB IT IN? GULP! I CAN SEE IT FOR MYSELF!
LOIS LANE
LANA LANG
REMEMBER OUR BARGAIN! BETTER HURRY HOME NOW! YOU'VE GOT A LOT OF PACKING TO DO! COME ON, TAKE IT LIKE A SPORT!
DON'T WORRY ABOUT ME, LANA! I'LL KEEP MY PLEDGE! BY TOMORROW I'LL BE ON MY WAY OUT OF THE COUNTRY!
5

BROKEN-HEARTED, LOIS LEAVES METROPOLIS...
LOIS, PROFESSOR POTTER TOLD ME EVERYTHING! YOU CAN'T QUIT! WHERE'S YOUR LOYALTY TO THE DAILY PLANET?
CHOKE! THE PLANET IS MORE IMPORTANT TO ME THAN YOU REALIZE, PERRY! BUT I MADE A BARGAIN WITH LANA! AND NOW GOODBYE! I'VE GOT TO CATCH A BOAT!

GOODBYE, METROPOLIS! AND FAREWELL TO YOU, SUPERMAN, DEAR! I PROMISED TO GET OUT OF YOUR LIFE! (SOB!) BUT IT WON'T BE SO EASY TO GET YOU OUT OF MY HEART!

THEN ONE DAY, SUPERMAN VISITS THE POTTER LAB...
LANA! I CAN'T FIND LOIS ANYWHERE EVER SINCE I RETURNED TO EARTH! PERRY SAYS SHE LEFT METROPOLIS AFTER A "LOVE-DETECTOR TEST"! WHAT TEST?
IT'S TRUE, SUPERMAN, DEAR! THAT HEART-METER WAS REALLY AN INDICATOR WHICH REVEALED THAT YOU CARED MORE FOR ME THAN FOR HER! LOIS COULDN'T FACE THE TRUTH AND LEFT THE COUNTRY, POOR THING!


AS SUPERMAN EXAMINES THE DEVICE WITH HIS X-RAY VISION...
PROFESSOR! THIS MACHINE COULDN'T POSSIBLY DETECT WHICH GIRL I PREFERRED! THE CIRCUITS ARE ADJUSTED TO REVEAL ONLY THE EMOTIONS OF WOMEN!
THAT'S RIGHT! I FORGOT TO READJUST THE DETECTOR AFTER I TESTED IT ON ANGEL LE FLEUR!

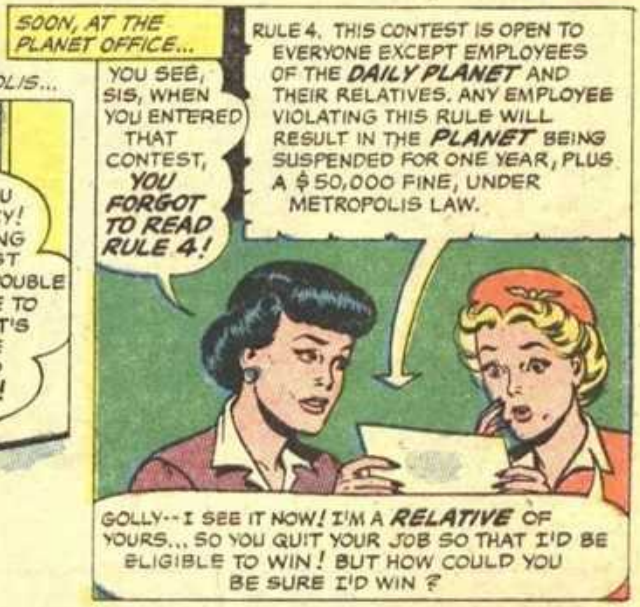
THEN LOIS WRONGLY BELIEVED YOU LOVED ME, AND FLED! OH, SUPERMAN, YOU MUST FIND HER AND BRING HER BACK! I LOVE YOU-- BUT I DON'T WANT TO WIN YOU UNFAIRLY!
DON'T WORRY, LANA! I'LL SEARCH EVERY CORNER OF THE GLOBE FOR HER!

MEANWHILE, IN A REMOTE LAND WHERE LOIS HAS BECOME A VOLUNTEER TEACHER, SHE STILL CANNOT FORGET SUPERMAN!
REMEMBER, CHILDREN! SUPERMAN IS THE SAME AS SUPER-HOMBRE IN YOUR LANGUAGE! SAY IT ALL TOGETHER!
SUPERMAN... SUPER-HOMBRE!
Superman
Super-Hombre

THAT AFTERNOON, AS SCHOOL ENDS, A DYNAMIC FIGURE STREAKS DOWN FROM THE SKY...
LOIS! MY TELESCOPIC VISION FINALLY LOCATED YOU! LANA TOLD ME WHY YOU RAN AWAY! BUT THAT LOVE DETECTOR TEST COULDN'T WORK! YOU MUST HAVE FAKED THE RESULTS OF THAT TEST!
YES, SUPERMAN! BUT I DID IT TO SAVE THE DAILY PLANET FROM RUIN!

I PLANNED TO RETURN TO METROPOLIS TO EXPLAIN, BUT SHIPS SELDOM STOP HERE! HOWEVER, NOW THAT THE CLOSING DATE OF THE BUILD-A-WORD CONTEST IS OVER, YOU CAN TAKE ME HOME!
I'LL BE GLAD TO TAKE YOU HOME -- BUT WHAT HAS THAT CONTEST GOT TO DO WITH YOUR RUNNING AWAY?
JULY 8

AFTER A SWIFT JOURNEY, LOIS ARRIVES HOME IN METROPOLIS...
LOIS! AM I GLAD TO SEE YOU! LOOK WHAT HAPPENED AFTER YOU LEFT! I WON THIS GORGEOUS SPORTS CAR IN THE BUILD-A-WORD CONTEST!
I KNEW YOU WOULD, LUCY! YOUR ENTERING THAT CONTEST STARTED THE TROUBLE THAT FORCED ME TO QUIT MY JOB! LET'S GO BACK TO THE PLANET AND I'LL EXPLAIN!


SOON, AT THE PLANET OFFICE...
YOU SEE, SIS, WHEN YOU ENTERED THAT CONTEST, YOU FORGOT TO READ RULE 4!
RULE 4. THIS CONTEST IS OPEN TO EVERYONE EXCEPT EMPLOYEES OF THE DAILY PLANET AND THEIR RELATIVES. ANY EMPLOYEE VIOLATING THIS RULE WILL RESULT IN THE PLANET BEING SUSPENDED FOR ONE YEAR, PLUS A $50,000 FINE, UNDER METROPOLIS LAW.
GOLLY -- I SEE IT NOW! I'M A RELATIVE OF YOURS... SO YOU QUIT YOUR JOB SO THAT I'D BE ELIGIBLE TO WIN! BUT HOW COULD YOU BE SURE I'D WIN?

"MY INTUITION WARNED ME OF TROUBLE WHEN JIMMY EXPLAINED THE CONTEST RULES TO ME..."
EACH CONTESTANT MUST LIST HIS WORD TOTAL ON THE ENVELOPE!
L. LANE 1356 BUILD-A-WORD CONTEST BOX 224, METROPOLIS
SO THAT'S THE CONTEST LUCY ENTERED! MY SISTER! AND SHE HAD 1356 WORDS! GULP! IF SHE WINS, THE DAILY PLANET IS SUNK!
K. PETERS 1155 BUILD-A-WORD CONTEST BOX 224, METROPOLIS

"I HURRIED TO PROFESSOR POTTER'S OFFICE. UNOBSERVED, I CHECKED LUCY'S WORD TOTAL ON THE COMPUTER..."
GASP! ACCORDING TO THE COMPUTER, NOT MORE THAN 1356 WORDS CAN BE BUILT FROM THE NAME DAILY PLANET! GROAN! LUCY IS SURE TO WIN! EVERYONE WILL YELL "FIX!", AND THE PLANET WILL BE RUINED... UNLESS I FIND A LEGITIMATE EXCUSE FOR QUITTING MY JOB!
1356 PLAID -- 1355 DIAL -- 1354 PLAIN -- 13 PAI

"WHEN THE LOVE-DETECTOR FAILED TO WORK, I SAW MY CHANCE. I SECRETLY MOVED THE POINTER!"
--SOMETIMES YOU GET THESE GADGETS TO WORK BY STRIKING THEM A COUPLE OF TIMES!
I ADJUSTED IT, SO THAT WHEN THE FAKE DIAL IS REMOVED, THE MACHINE WILL SHOW THAT SUPERMAN LOVES LANA! I'LL HAVE TO LEAVE AMERICA, BUT AT LEAST THE DAILY PLANET WON'T BE RUINED!
RAPP! RAPP!
HEART-METER
ONCE YOU RESIGNED AS A REPORTER, LUCY WAS NO LONGER A RELATIVE OF A PLANET EMPLOYEE! THUS THE PLANET WAS PROTECTED, TECHNICALLY!
BUT IT'S STILL MORALLY WRONG FOR ME TO KEEP THE SPORTS CAR! I'LL RETURN IT AND LET THE PLANET AWARD IT TO THE RUNNER-UP IN THE CONTEST!
I'M TICKLED PINK TO HAVE YOU BACK, LOIS! YOUR SUPER-LOYALTY SAVED THE PAPER FROM DISGRACE AND RUIN!
THANKS, PERRY!
BUT... I WONDER... WHICH ONE OF US WOULD HAVE BEEN HIS CHOICE IF THE MACHINE HAD WORKED!
LATER, WHEN LOIS MEETS LUCY AFTER WORK...
THERE'S THE MAN WHO GOT MY SPORTS CAR! HE WAS ABLE TO BUILD 1,350 WORDS IN THE CONTEST!... ER... DO YOU KNOW HIM, SIS?
GROAN!-- OH, NO--NOT THAT BEATNIK!
The End 8

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Lay a big square of paper on the floor. Scatter a number of TOOTSIE ROLL FUDGE SQUARES on it. Give each guest ten toothpicks to serve as missiles. Each player in turn drops his toothpicks one at a time onto the square from above, holding the toothpick at arm's length in front of him. Each time he touches or lands on a piece of TOOTSIE ROLL FUDGE it's his. The one with the most squares is the winner!

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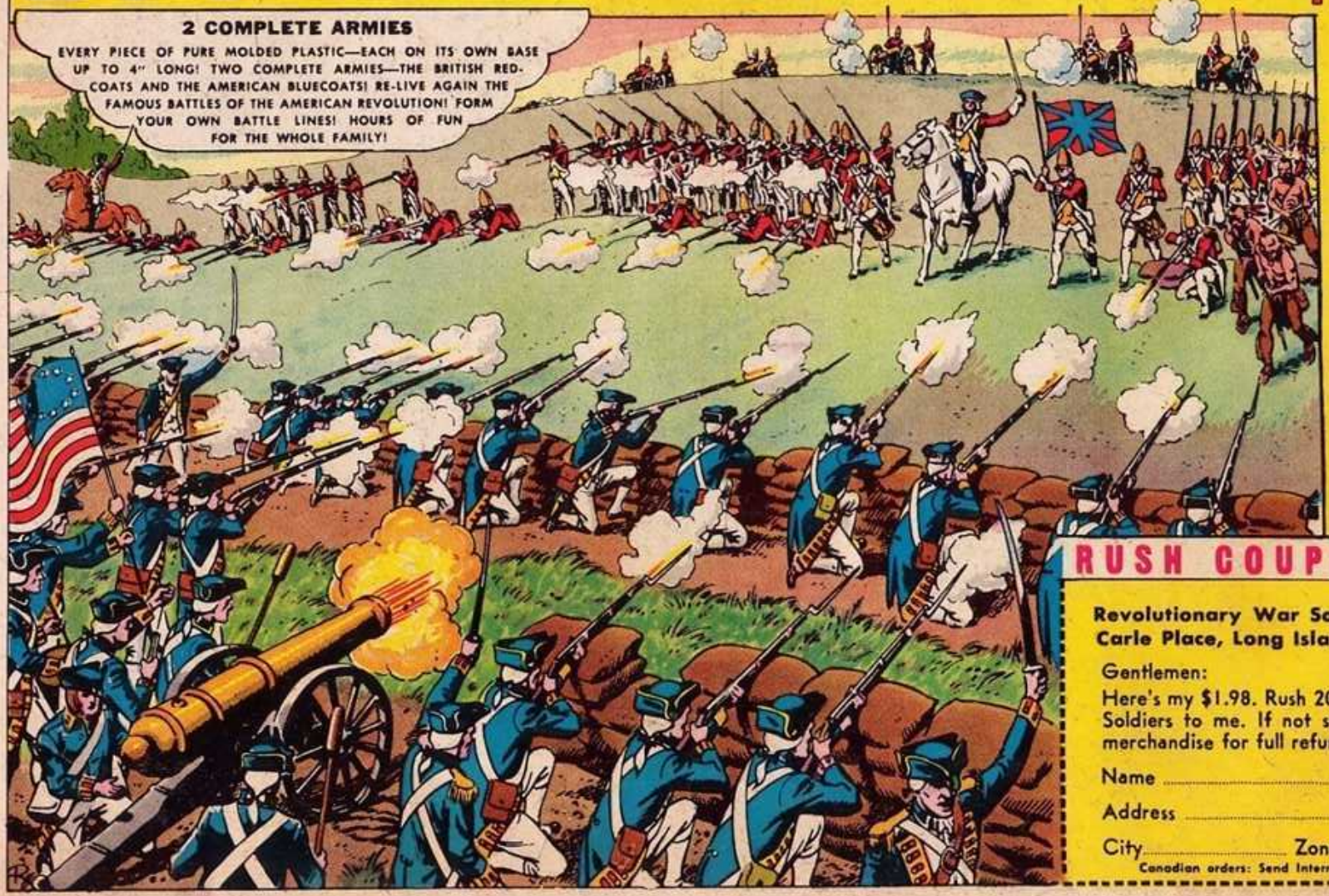

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